

Amendments to the Specification

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 4 with the following amended paragraph.

This application claims benefit from previously filed Provisional Application No. 60/158,668, filed on October 8, 1999, which is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 11, line 25 with the following amended paragraph.

Alternatively,  $\beta$ -galactosidase activity can be expressed in ONPG units ( $\mu$ moles of ONPG hydrolyzed per minute at 28°C). ONPG units can be measured using the following equation:

$$\text{ONPG Units} = \text{OD}_{420}/\text{min} \times 21,3000 \text{ } \underline{21,300} \text{ ml/mmoles.}$$